

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		Attorney's Docket Number 70463
		U.S. Application No. (if known) 35 U.S.C. 371.5 <b>10/070934</b>
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/IB00/00244	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 9/March/2000	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED September 15, 1999
TITLE OF INVENTION WATCH MOVEMENT WITH HAND DISPLAY		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US BRANDT et al.		

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(C)(2))
  - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern other documents (s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.  
☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information:  
Formal Drawings (3 sheets)  
Copy of Express Mail Receipt No. EV 071195883 US  
Copies of Cited References (2)  
Replacement - English Translation

U.S. Appl. No. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.53) <b>10/070934</b>	International Application No. PCT/IB00/00244	Attorney's Docket Number 70463
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17. [X] The following fees are submitted: <b>BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):</b> Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$890.00  International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) ..... \$710.00  No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) ..... \$740.00  Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482 nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... \$1,040.00  International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4) ..... \$100.00	CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY
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ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =	\$ 890.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than [ ] 20 [ ] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e))	\$	

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total Claims	16 - 20 =	0	X \$ 18.00	\$ 0.00	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	00	X \$ 84.00	\$ 0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00	\$ 0.00	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>				\$ 0.00	

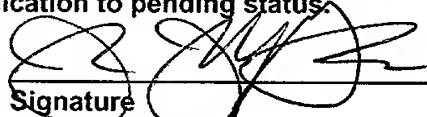
Reduction of 1/2 for filing small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28)	\$ 445.00	
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>	\$ 445.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation late than [ ] 20 [ ] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).	\$	
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>	\$ 445.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property	\$ 40.00	
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>	\$ 485.00	
	Amount to be: refunded	\$
	charged	\$

- a. [X] A check in the amount of \$ 485.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. [ ] Please charge my Deposit Account No. 13-0410 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees.  
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13.0410. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

Send all correspondence to:

McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.  
Scarborough Station  
Scarborough, NY 10510-0827

  
Signature  
John James McGlew  
Name

31,903  
Registration Number

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 70463

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BRANDT et al.  
PCT No : PCT/IB00/00244  
Filed : March 11, 2002  
For : WATCH MOVEMENT...  
Dated : March 11, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) A movement according to claim 2, wherein the angle at the apex is substantially equal to 140°.

Please amend Claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) A movement according to claim 1, wherein said movement is of the chronograph type and includes a mobile element intended to carry a measured time seconds hand concentric to said hour and minute hands, and wherein, among said four mobile elements, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and the hour of the measured time and the seconds of the current time.

Please amend Claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) A movement according to claim 1, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

Please add the following new claims:

8. (New) A movement according to claim 3, wherein the angle at the apex is substantially equal to  $140^{\circ}$ .

9. (New) A movement according to claim 2, wherein said movement is of the chronograph type and includes a mobile element intended to carry a measured time seconds hand concentric to said hour and minute hands, and wherein, among said four mobile elements, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and the hour of the measured time and the seconds of the current time.

10. (New) A movement according to claim 3, wherein said movement is of the chronograph type and includes a mobile element intended to carry a measured time seconds hand concentric to said hour and minute hands, and wherein, among said four mobile elements, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and the hour of the measured time and the seconds of the current time.

11. (New) A movement according to claim 4, wherein said movement is of the chronograph type and includes a mobile element intended to carry a measured time seconds hand concentric to said hour and minute hands, and wherein, among said four mobile elements, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and the hour of the measured time and the seconds of the current time.

12. (New) A movement according to claim 2, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

13. (New) A movement according to claim 3, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

14. (New) A movement according to claim 4, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

15. (New) A movement according to claim 5, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

16. (New) A movement according to claim 6, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

#### REMARKS

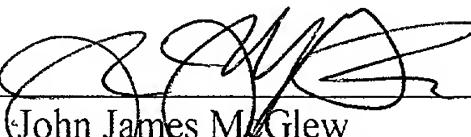
Claims 1 through 16 are in this application and are presented for consideration. Claims 4, 5 and 7 have been amended. The amended claims present the same subject matter as the original claims but have been amended to adapt them to the U. S. style. The new claims present subject matter similar to the original claims, but in a different form.

The claims have been amended in order to place this application in better form.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted  
for Applicant,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
John James McGlew  
Registration No. 31,903  
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:tf

70463.1

Enclosed: Version of Claims Showing Changes

DATED: March 11, 2002  
SCARBOROUGH STATION  
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827  
(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.  
SCARBOROUGH STATION, SCARBOROUGH, NY 10510-0827

BY: *Jonid Ann Forte* DATE: March 11, 2002

## VERSION OF CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES

4. (Amended) A movement according to claims 2 ~~and 3~~, wherein the angle at the apex is substantially equal to  $140^{\circ}$ .

5. (Amended) A movement according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein said movement is of the chronograph type and includes a mobile element intended to carry a measured time seconds hand concentric to said hour and minute hands, and wherein, among said four mobile elements, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and the hour of the measured time and the seconds of the current time.

7. (Amended) A movement according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~to 6~~, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate



WATCH MOVEMENT WITH HAND DISPLAY

5

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention concerns watch movements with hand display, and more particularly, those of the type with complications. A watch movement with complications means a movement allowing functions other than the date to be  
10 displayed, which are generally the day of the month, the day of the week, the hour, the minute and the second. This is the case, in particular, of watches known by the name of chronographs, which allow a time counter to be started at a given moment, and stopped, restarted or reset to zero at any time.

15 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Watches made using of these movements include, conventionally, a display of the hour and minute of the current time by means of hands arranged at the centre of the dial. The seconds hand of the chronograph is concentric thereto. Other data is displayed by means of hands. This is generally the second of the current time, and  
20 the measured hour and minute. They are displayed by means of small hands whose pivoting axis is generally at a distance from the central axis substantially equal to half the radius of the dial. If the dial is not round, this distance is substantially equal to half the radius of a circle inscribed in the periphery of the dial.

25 The watch dial thus includes up to four small dials arranged generally at midday, 3, 6 and 9 o'clock. Watches of this type are illustrated at pages 283 and 285 of the catalogue of works selected from the Musée International d'Horlogerie, La Chaux-de-Fonds 1999 ISBN 2-940088-07-1. It will be noted that practically the entire visible surface is occupied by the display of the various functions. This results in a  
30 heaviness that is detrimental to the aesthetic appearance of the watch.

Moreover, very particular care is required to read the data displayed, since the eye has to follow a circular movement in order to read the four small hands.

35 The object of the present invention is to allow the manufacture of watches that include a significant number of complications, offering a display that is pleasant to read and which avoids overloading the dial.

## BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The watch movement according to the invention thus has a hand display, including mobile elements, intended to receive the hour and minute hands of the current time,  
5 mounted so as to pivot about a first arbour arranged substantially at the centre of the movement and four mobile elements intended to receive hands for displaying complementary functions.

10 The watch movement is characterised in that the four mobile elements are mounted so as to pivot on the movement about second, third, fourth and fifth axes arranged on a straight line which is perpendicular to them, the second and fifth axes forming with the first axis the apex of an isosceles triangle the base of which rests on said straight line, the angle at the apex being comprised between  $120^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ .

15 Horological mobile element arbours aligned along a straight line have of course already been shown. Thus, European Patent document No. EP-A-0 389 440 includes a block diagram of a watch movement provided with four hands. In this diagram, the hands are shown on a line. However, in the Figure showing the structure of the watch, the axes of the arbours bearing the hands are arranged concentric to the  
20 centre of the movement.

US Patent document No. US-A-5 739 647 relates to a transducer intended to be fitted to a watch and including several rotors, certain embodiments showing them aligned. The gear trains driven by these rotors are not, however, shown.

25 Advantageously, the straight line passing through the second to fifth axes is arranged below a line passing from 3 to 9 o'clock, through the centre of the movement.

Experience has shown that, advantageously, the angle at the apex is substantially  
30 equal to  $140^\circ$ .

One particularly attractive solution relates to a chronograph type movement, which includes a mobile element intended to carry a second hand for the measured time concentric to the hour and minute hands. Among the four mobile elements whose  
35 axes are arranged in a line, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and hour of the measured time and the second of the current time. The fourth mobile element may be intended to display the 24 hours of the day.

It is well known that the construction and industrialisation of a watch movement, and even more so a chronograph, requires a large investment of time and money. Thus, in order to allow the subject of the invention to be implemented quickly and economically, it is advantageous for the movement to include a plate intended to carry its various components and for the four mobile elements, whose axes are aligned, to be arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.

10

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Other advantages and features of the invention will appear from the following description, made with reference to the annexed drawing, in which:

- 15           1.   Figure 1 shows a watch fitted with a movement according to the invention;
2.   Figures 2 and 3 are respectively side and top views of the movement according to the invention; and
3.   Figures 4 to 7 show, in cross-section, gear trains that are specific to this
- 20   movement.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF AN EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

The watch shown in Figure 1 is a chronograph type watch. It includes, in a conventional manner, a case 10 which houses a movement 12, not visible in Figure 1, and which will only be described with reference to Figures 2 and 3.

25

The movement carries a dial 14 on which are arranged hands for displaying current time information, namely an hour hand 16 completing one revolution in 12 hours, an hour hand 18 completing one revolution in 24 hours, a minute hand 20 and a second hand 22. This display is completed by the day of the month indication 24, which appears through an aperture 26 made at midday in dial 14. Hour hand 16 and minute hand 20 are arranged at the centre of dial 14 and rotate about an axis A-A perpendicular to the plane of the drawing in Figure 1.

30

35   The watch further includes three chronograph hands 27, 28 and 30, respectively displaying the seconds, minutes and hours of measured times.

In order to control the watch, the user has a crown 32, placed at 3 o'clock, which enables time setting to be assured, and, in mechanical watches, the mainspring to be wound. Moreover, two push buttons 34 and 36, arranged respectively at 2 and 4 o'clock allow the chronograph functions to be controlled in a conventional manner.

5

As is shown clearly in Figure 1, hands 28, 30, 18 and 22 pivot respectively about axes B-B, C-C, D-D and E-E which, in Figure 1, are perpendicular to the plane of the drawing and arranged in a line, so that it is possible to pass a straight line X-X through the points of intersection B, C, D and E of these axes with the plane of the drawing. Moreover, if the end points B and E, corresponding to axes B-B and E-E are connected to point A corresponding to axis A-A, this defines an isosceles triangle whose angle at apex A is substantially equal to  $140^\circ$ . This solution permits an entirely legible display while giving the dial a certain aesthetic «bearing» due to the fact that the graphic structures arranged on the dial and defining the scales of hands 28, 30, 18 and 22 are arranged below axis A-A, i.e. substantially on a straight line passing between the half past three and half past eight positions on the dial.

These aesthetic considerations are particularly valid for watches with a round dial. By using a case and a dial of a different shape, the problem may arise in a different way. It has been however noted that, in most cases, the angle at the apex is comprised between  $120^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ .

In other words, as soon as axes B-B and E-E exceed sectors defined by lines connecting 4 o'clock and 10 o'clock on the one hand, and 2 o'clock and 8 o'clock on the other hand, the available space decreases so that the displays are too small to be able to be read in favourable conditions.

In order to understand properly how it is possible to make a display having the aforementioned features, reference must be made to Figures 2 to 7, which show the essential parts of movement 12 with respect to the invention.

Movement 12 includes a plate 38 on which most of the watch components are mounted, in particular at its centre, a chronograph seconds pinion 40, a cannon-pinion 42 and a cannon wheel 44. These three mobile elements, which respectively carry hands 26, 20 and 16, pivot about axis A-A.

Three other mobile elements, each provided with a shaft identified by the letter a and an intermediate wheel identified by the letter b, respectively bearing the references 46, 48 and 50 respectively complete one revolution in 30 minutes of measured time, 12 hours of measured time and 60 seconds of current time (Figure 3).

5

Plate 38 further carries a module 52 formed of a base plate 54 and a bridge 56, rigidly secured to each other by means of screws 57. Module 52 carries, inserted between plate 54 and bridge 56, three intermediate gears 58, 60 and 62 and a reduction train 64.

10

Gear 58, shown in cross-section in Figure 5, is meshed with intermediate wheel 46b. It includes an intermediate wheel 58a and a wheel 58b, the latter having the same number of teeth as wheel 46b, so that wheel 58b rotates in the same direction and at the same speed as wheel 46b. Wheel 58b includes a shaft 58c intended to receive the measured time minute hand 28.

15

Gear 60, shown in cross-section in Figure 6, is meshed with intermediate wheel 48b. It includes an intermediate wheel 60a and a wheel 60b, the latter having the same number of teeth as wheel 48b, so that wheel 60b rotates in the same direction and at the same speed as wheel 48b. Wheel 60b includes a shaft 60c intended to receive measured time hour hand 30.

20

Gear 62, shown in cross-section in Figure 7, is meshed with intermediate wheel 50b. It includes an intermediate wheel 62a and a wheel 62b, the latter having the same number of teeth as wheel 50b, so that wheel 62b rotates in the same direction and at the same speed as wheel 50b. Wheel 62b includes a shaft 62c intended to receive the current time seconds hand 22.

25

Finally, reduction train 64, shown in cross-section in Figure 4, meshes with a pinion 44a of cannon wheel 44. It includes an intermediate wheel 64a and a wheel 64b which has twice as many teeth as pinion 44a, so that wheel 64b rotates in the same direction and twice as slowly as the cannon wheel, i.e. hour hand 16. Wheel 64b includes a shaft 64c intended to receive the current time hour hand 18, which completes one revolution in 24 hours.

30

35

As can be seen particularly well in Figure 2, pivoting axes B, C, D and E of wheels 58b, 60b, 64b and 62b are arranged in that order, on the horizontal line X-X, which is slightly offset downwards with respect to the centre of the movement.

- 5 Module 52 is positioned, in a conventional manner, by means of pins 66 secured to the base plate and engaged in holes in plate 38. It is fixed, for example, by means of screws, which have not been shown in the drawing.

- 10 It goes without saying that the movement according to the invention can be the subject of various variants, without thereby departing from the scope of the invention. Thus, the four aligned mobile elements could carry hands assuring the display of different functions to those described.

- 15 It would also be possible to place the straight line, on which the four axes are aligned, vertically, for example for countries in which one reads from top to bottom.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. A watch movement with hand display, including mobile elements, intended to receive the hour and minute hands of the current time, mounted so as to pivot about a first axis arranged substantially at the centre of the movement and four mobile elements intended to receive hands for displaying complementary functions,
- 10 wherein the four mobile elements are mounted so as to pivot on the movement about second, third, fourth and fifth axes arranged on a straight line which is perpendicular to them.
2. A movement according to claim 1, wherein the second and fifth axes form, with the first axis the apex of an isosceles triangle whose base rests on said straight line, the angle at the apex being comprised between  $120^{\circ}$  and  $180^{\circ}$ .
- 15 3. A movement according to claim 2, wherein said straight line passes below a line passing from 3 to 9 o'clock, through the centre of the movement.
- 20 4. A movement according to claims 2 and 3, wherein the angle at the apex is substantially equal to  $140^{\circ}$ .
5. A movement according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein said movement is of the chronograph type and includes a mobile element intended to carry a measured time seconds hand concentric to said hour and minute hands, and wherein, among said four mobile elements, three of them are intended to display respectively the minute and the hour of the measured time and the seconds of the current time.
- 25 6. A movement according to claim 5, wherein the fourth mobile element is intended to display the 24 hours of the day.
- 30 7. A movement according to any of claims 1 to 6, including a plate intended to carry its different components, and wherein said four mobile elements are arranged on a module, itself mounted on the plate, each of the four mobile elements being kinematically connected to a mobile element pivoting in the plate.
- 35

ABSTRACT

WATCH MOVEMENT WITH HAND DISPLAY

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Watch movement with hand display, comprising mobile elements (44, 42), designed to receive the hour (16) and minute (20) hands indicating current time, mounted pivoting to pivot about a first axis (A-A) arranged substantially at the centre of the movement and four mobile elements (58b, 60b, 64b, 62b) designed to receive hands displaying complementary functions.

10

According to the invention, the four mobile elements (58b, 60b, 64b, 62b) are mounted pivoting on the movement about second (B-B), third (C-C), fourth (D-D) and fifth (E-E) axes arranged on a straight line (X-X) perpendicular to them.

15

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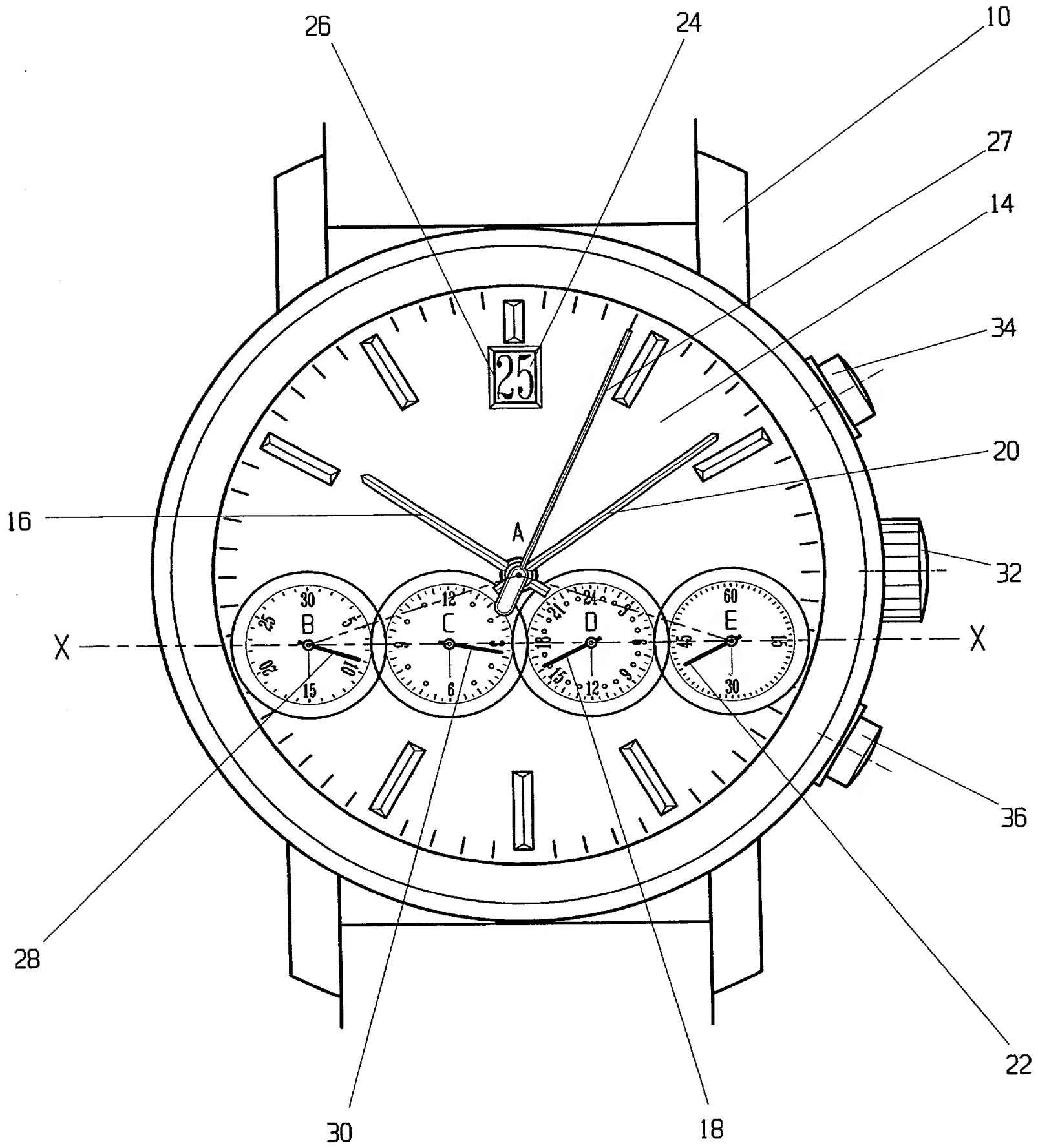


Figure 1

Figure 2

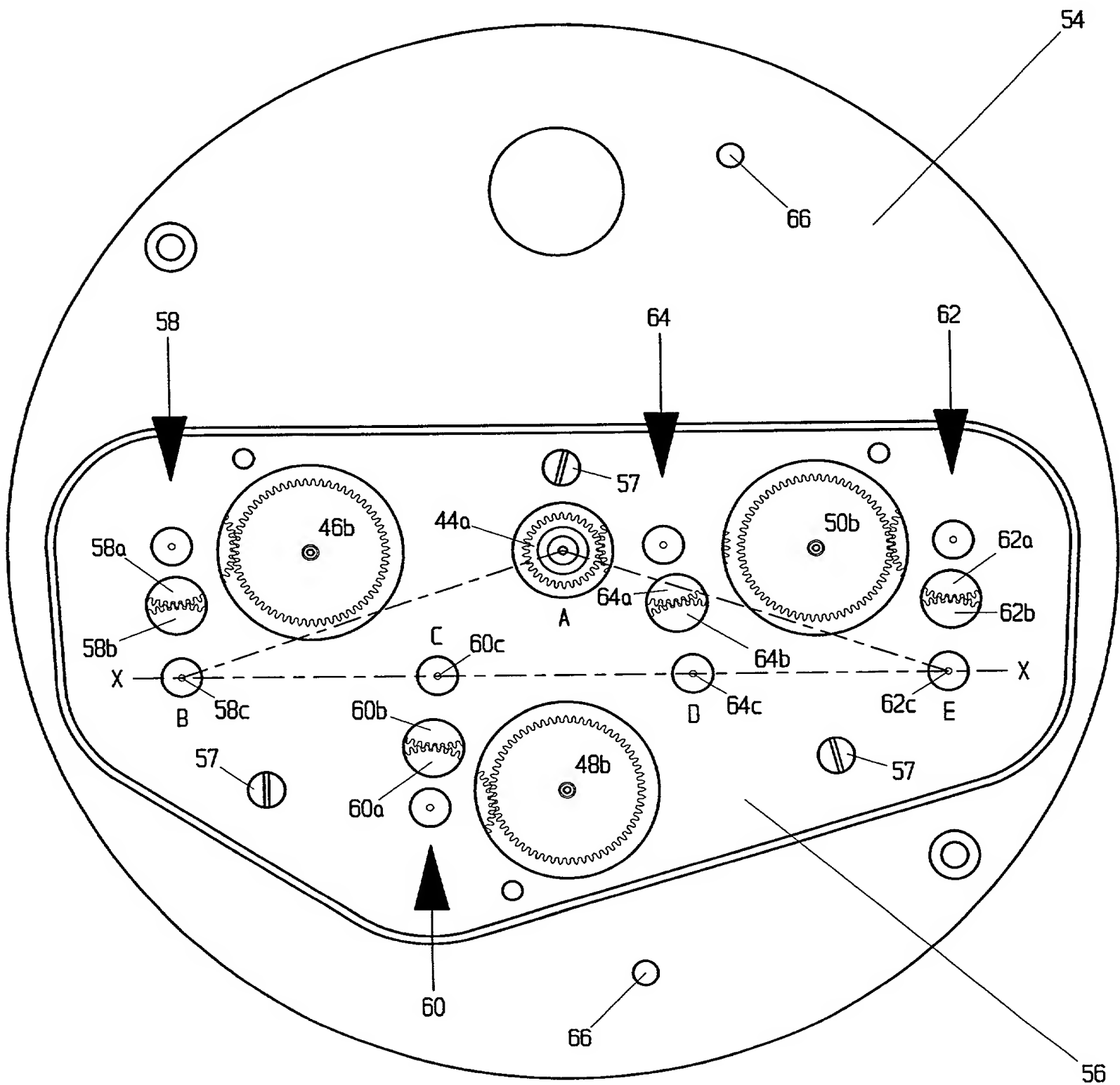
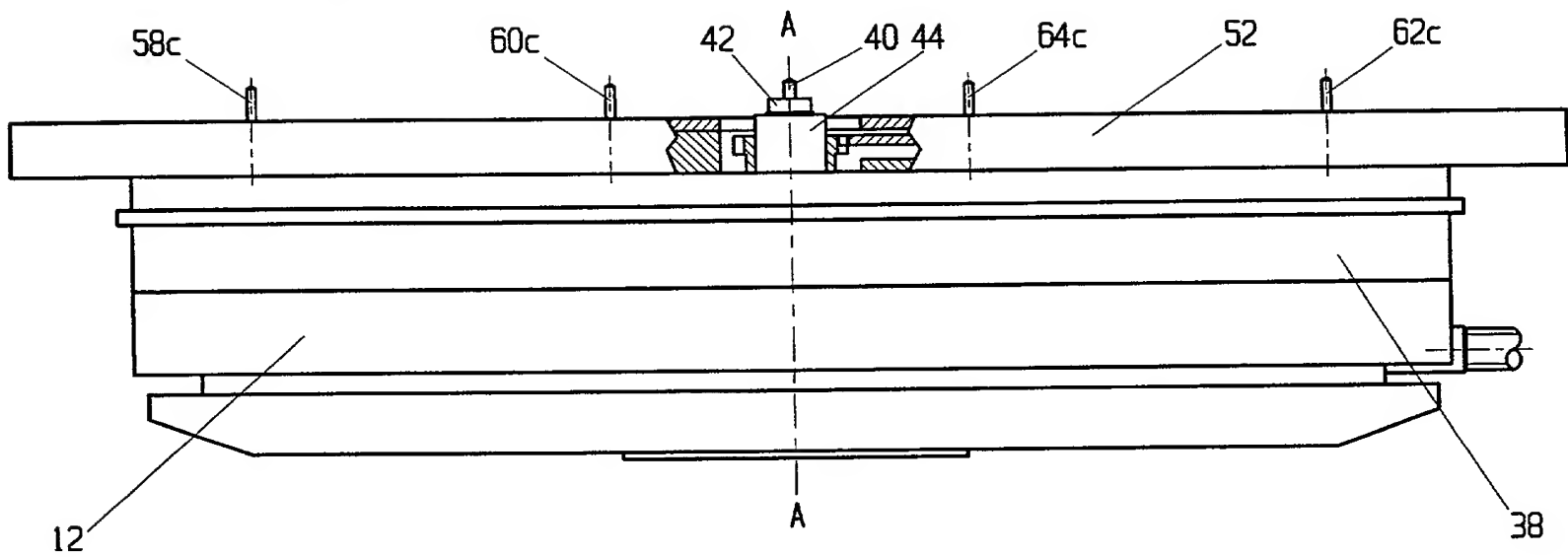


Figure 3

201450-4E50/001

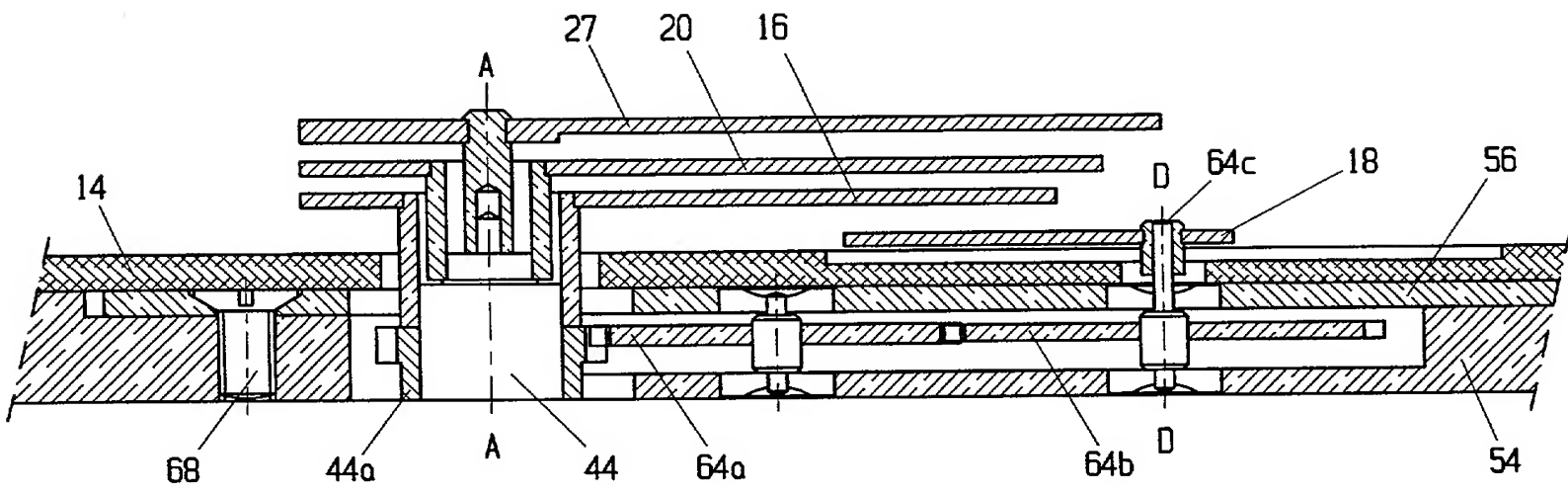


Figure 4

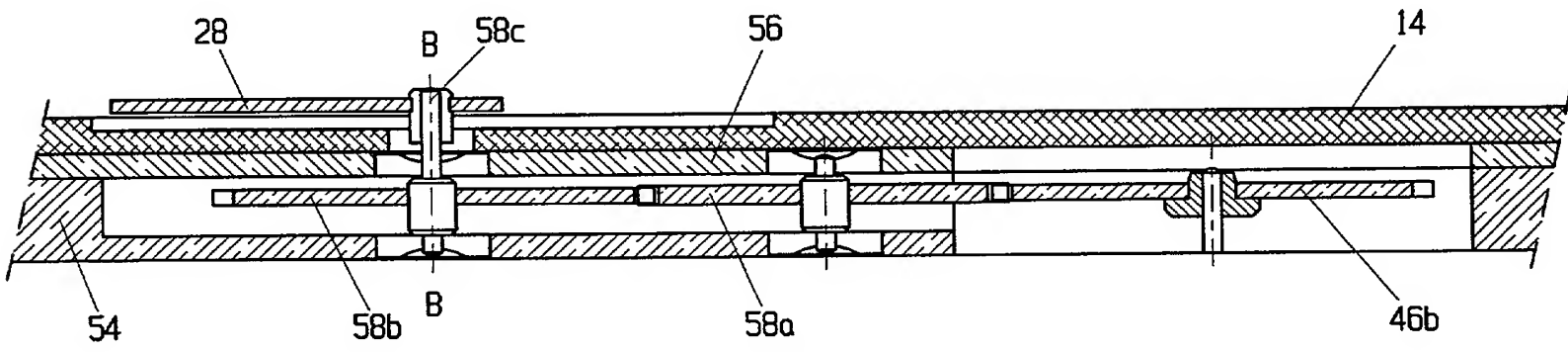


Figure 5

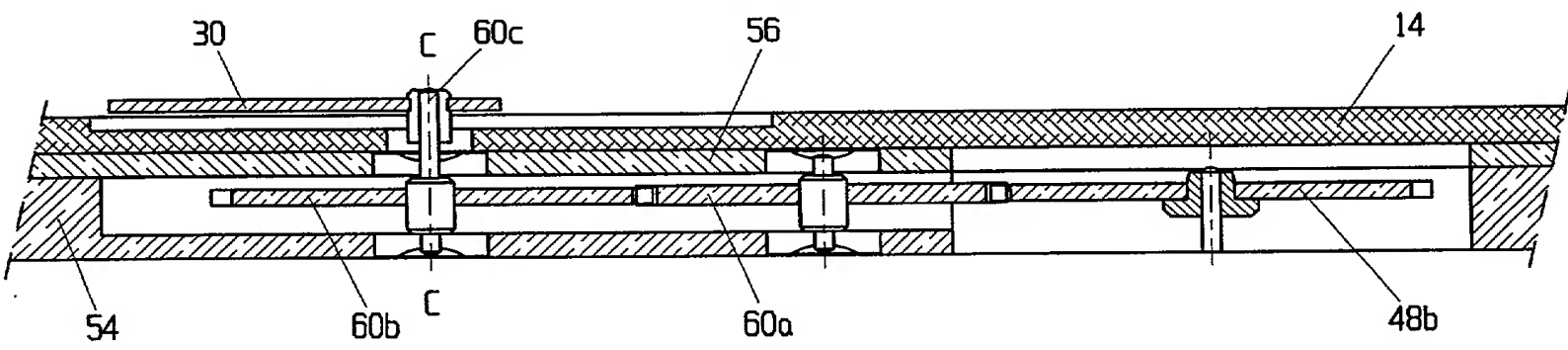


Figure 6

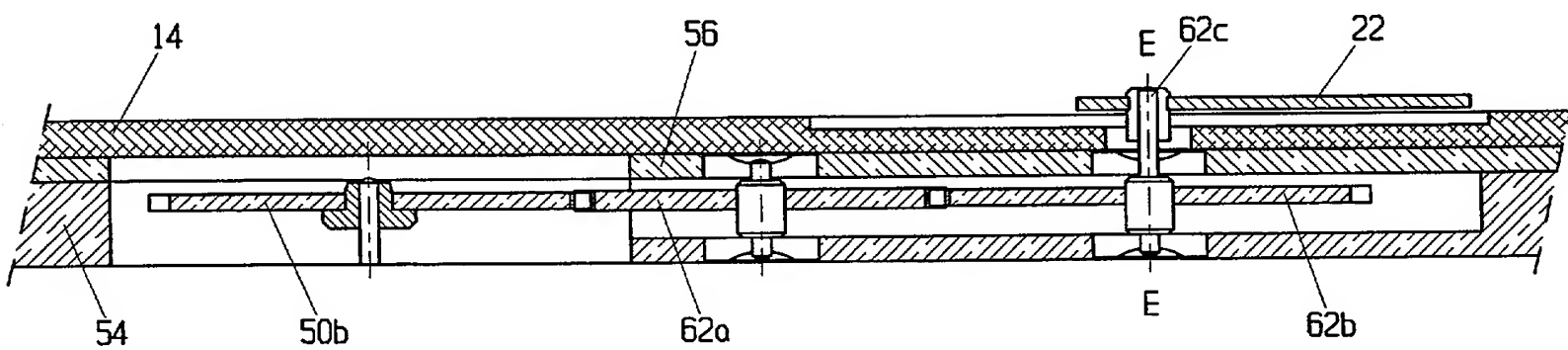


Figure 7

2017 FEB 14 15:02:00

PATENT APPLICATION

DECLARATION AND POWER OF  
ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLN.

ATTY. DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence/post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

WATCH MOVEMENT WITH HAND DISPLAY

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

( ) was filed in U.S. on \_\_\_\_\_  
as U.S. Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_; or

(X) PCT International Application Number IB00/00244 and was amended on  
\_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understood the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

**Foreign Application(s) and/or Claim of Foreign Priority**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor(s) certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor(s) certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Country:</u>	<u>Application Serial</u> <u>No.:</u>	<u>Date Filed:</u> Day/Month/Year	<u>Priority Claimed:</u> Under 35 U.S.C. 119
Switzerland	MM126349	15.09.1999	Yes No
			Yes No
			Yes No

**U.S. Priority Claim**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the

filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial No.:	Date Filed: Day/Month/Year	STATUS (patented/pending/abandoned)

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:**

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) listed below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; we further hereby authorize the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to insert the correct serial number and filing date into this declaration, if none is indicated on that date of our execution of this Declaration.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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200

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